

REMARKS

Claims 1-28 remain pending. Claims 1-7, 9-15, 21, 27 and 28 are currently under consideration. Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

The drawings were objected to under 37CFR1.83(a) as failing to show every feature specified in the claims and more specifically, for failing to show the pressure valve claimed in claim 4. The Examiner's attention is respectfully drawn to FIGS. 10 and 11 and the corresponding description thereof at page 18 of the specification. The bistable nipples serve as pressure valves to the extent that they prevent flow at pressures below a certain level and permit flow when pressures exceed such level.

Claims 1-3, 5, 7, 9, 12, 27 and 28 were rejected under 35USC103(a) as obvious over Machold et al (USPN 5,611,775) in view of Boyd et al (USPN 5,558,644). The Examiner asserts that the primary reference discloses a method for delivering fluid to the coronary arteries by positioning the porous section of a balloon proximate the coronary ostia. Applicants respectfully traverse. The reference is in fact directed to a method of delivering a therapeutic agent to a stenosed **arterial wall** (of for example a coronary artery) and more particularly, describes a method of using a porous balloon to inject "jets" of such material **deep into** the surrounding tissue mass (col 3, lines 64). As such, the balloon is maneuvered past the ostium and into the coronary artery where it is then deployed to deliver fluid into the surrounding tissue rather than into the artery. It is respectfully submitted that no suggestion is thereby made to employ a porous balloon for delivering a fluid **into** a coronary artery. Moreover, no suggestion is made that the balloon is to be expanded while its porous section is adjacent to an ostium let alone adjacent to multiple ostia as is specified in the claims. In sum, the primary reference teaches a method that achieves a very different result and moreover, describes a very different method for using a porous balloon. The secondary reference merely addresses the delivery path that is used to reach the deployment site and does not overcome the underlying shortcomings of the primary reference. It is therefore respectfully submitted

that independent claim 1 and all claims depending therefrom effectively avoid obviousness in view of the cited combination of references.

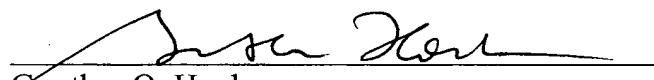
Claims 1-3, 5, 7, 9, 21 and 28 were rejected under 35USC103(a) as obvious over Machold et al (USPN 5,611,775) in view of Sweezer et al (USPN 5,478,309). It is respectfully submitted that the secondary reference fails to overcome the underlying shortcomings of the primary reference as described above. Accordingly, obviousness is effectively avoided.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the finding of allowable subject matter in claims 4, 6, 10, 11 and 13-15.

In light of the above amendments and remarks, applicants earnestly believe the application to be in condition for allowance and respectfully request that it be passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

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